

Environmental Policy Commission Minutes
September 24, 2012 EPC Regular Meeting

EPC Members in Attendance

X	Peter Pennington (Chair)	X	Danielle Fidler	✓	Kurt Moser
X	Kristen Nelson	✓	Josh Sawislak	X	Geoffrey Goode
✓	Chinling Chen	✓	Scott Barstow	✓	Rebecca Jablon
✓	Steve Walz	✓	Ryan Sloan		

[✓ = In attendance X= Absent]

City Staff

Bill Skrabak, Khoa Tran

Begin 7:30 PM

Welcome and Introductions

- Josh, acting Chair, called the meeting to order and welcomed Steve Walz and Ryan Sloan to the EPC
- Teresa Hadeed and Brian Kane were welcomed to the meeting
- Adrienne Fancher from AlexRenew and Amos Desjardin from the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) were also welcomed

**Alexandria Coalition for Clean and Smoke-Free Air, Richard Merritt, Chair;
Partnership for a Healthier Alexandria, Carrie Fesperman Redden, Alexandria Health Dept**

- Richard explained that the goal of the Coalition is for Alexandria to be smoke-free by 2015.
- The Coalition seeks to reduce the level of smoking and exposure to secondhand smoke and other unhealthy air in Alexandria
- The Coalition has launched several initiatives:
 - o A smoke-free home and car competition
 - o Smoke-free pledges which were sent home with elementary school children to their families – approximately 75 pledges have been received
 - o Discouraging smoking in and around parks, playgrounds and bus shelters through signage
 - The signage program had a broad coalition of support including the EPC and the City's Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Activities
 - o Encouraging medical providers to screen for tobacco use
- The Coalition seeks to launch an initiative to encourage clean air policies in multi-family housing
 - o The Coalition would appreciate EPC input on the methodology and implementation of the initiative
- No other jurisdiction in Virginia has accomplished as much as Alexandria has so far
- Richard is also chair of the Public Health Advisory Commission, which has drafted a preliminary action plan.
 - o The action plan outlines three goals: to keep youth from smoking, assist current smokers to quit and to reduce the level of exposure to second-hand smoke.
 - o The Commission would also appreciate EPC support of the proposed action plan
- The Commission's work has much overlap with the goals outlined in the EAP and the Commission looks forward to collaboration with the EPC in the future.

Sanitary Sewer Master Plan Update, Erin Bevis-Carver, T&ES Engineering Division

- Erin gave an overview of the Master Plan objectives, which include understanding of the system, analyzing growth impacts, incorporating regulatory requirements, evaluating infrastructure improvements and costs and identifying funding strategies for large-scale projects.
- Erin discussed the growth-related needs, such as additional treatment capacity and collection system improvements, and the existing systems needs, such as a wet weather management facility and Holmes Run sewershed infiltration and inflow.
- Growth-related needs are funded by the connection fee and existing system needs are funded by the maintenance fee. Changes to the sewer connection fee are being explored.

EPC Retreat Follow-Up

- The minutes from the retreat were approved pending minor edits proposed by Bill
- All other discussion was tabled to the next meeting.

Staff Updates

- Bill reminded the EPC of the media press event on October 1st at 9:30 AM for the closure of the GenOn Plant and the reception at City Hall on October 9th from 6:30 – 700 PM.

Special EPC Election

- The following individuals were elected:
 - o Chair: Josh Sawislak
 - o Vice-Chair: Tabled for now
 - o Earth Day Chair: Tabled for now
 - o Waterfront Commission: Tabled for now

Adjourn 9:40 PM